

WHEN peace comes Germany will be in too many places to enjoy it.

HOME EDITION

The Topeka Star

TOPEKA, KANSAS, FRIDAY EVENING, JULY 12, 1918—TEN PAGES

WEATHER FORECAST for Kansas:
Partly cloudy tonight; generally fair tomorrow.

THREE CENTS

BERAT FALLS TO ADVANCING ITALIAN ARMY

Official Cable Announces Capture of Important City.

Strategic Center on the Road From Coast to Serbia.

300-MILE LINE MAY FLAME UP

Whole Macedonian Front May Become Involved.

Italians Take Much Booty and Many Prisoners.

Washington, July 12.—Berat has fallen before the advancing Italian troops in Albania, an official cable to the Italian embassy reports.

Berat is a strategic center on the road to Serbia and was the immediate objective of the allied offensive in Albania. A great quantity of war booty and numerous prisoners were taken.

Capture of the city was expected by military authorities after dominating heights to the south and west were taken by Alpine troops in hand to hand fighting.

French troops had pressed the Austrian defenses to the east back beyond the city. The Austrians, realizing the importance of maintaining their position, fought desperately until practically surrounded.

The fall of Berat completely unites the allied forces operating in Albania. Withdrawal of the Austrians north of the Semeni was also announced in the Rome cables.

London, July 12.—Activity is developing along the whole Balkan front and there are increasing indications that the Albanian fighting may spread to the entire 300 mile line from the Adriatic to the Gulf of Rentina.

The Italians have crossed the Semeni river at one or more points, according to the latest reports from the battle front and are nearing the new Austrian defense line along the Skumbi river. Infantry has progressed at least twenty-five miles north of the original line on the Vardar, while cavalry detachments are reported to have advanced even farther.

This would mean that the Italian line would be about midway between the Semeni and the Skumbi.

French, Greek and British Involved. In Macedonia Bulgarian artillery is heavily bombarding the French and Greek positions, especially north of Monastir and west of the Vardar river. British airplanes made bombing raids on enemy depots in the Struma valley. The Struma represents the extreme right wing of the allied front. The Vardar flows into the Gulf of Saloniki at the city of that name. Austrians Retreat on 60-Mile Front.

The right wing of the Austrians, retreating on a 60-mile front from the sea eastward, is said to be falling back so rapidly that the retreat in some places borders on a rout. Great quantities of material are falling into the hands of the Italians and Albanians, while the enemy is destroying other quantities.

Effective resistance by the enemy is becoming less frequent and whenever a temporary stand is made, the Italians succeed in inflicting heavy casualties.

Bad as Piave Defeat. Rome, July 12.—Austria's defeat in Albania is proportionately as overwhelming a reverse as the Piave rout. Battle front disintegrations received here (Continued on Page Two.)

LOSE FIVE PLANES

Five American Bombers Lost on Raid in Germany.

Berlin Says Planes and Crews Were Captured.

Washington, July 12.—Five American airplanes which went on a bombing expedition have failed to return, General Pershing's communique reported today.

Berlin reported five American airplanes in German hands yesterday. General Pershing's communique was the first announcement from American sources of the loss of the machines. It gave no details, but yesterday's report from Berlin, which came by way of London, declared that the five machines were part of a squadron of eight which started out to bomb Coblenz. The crews of the airplanes, the German report said, were taken prisoner.

The communique follows: Headquarters American expeditionary forces, July 10, 1918.

Section A.—In the Vosges a raid attempted by the enemy broke down with losses before our lines had been reached. The day passed quietly at other points.

As the result of a bombing expedition last evening five of our machines are missing.

40 CENTS LIVING WAGE

War Labor Board Establishes 40 an Hour in Pennsylvania Plants.

Washington, July 12.—Forty cents an hour was declared to be a "living wage" by the National war labor board in a decision today affecting workers at eight plants in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania.

A basic 8 hour day was ordered to become effective immediately at both plants of the Worthington Pump & Machinery company at East Cambridge, Mass., and Buffalo, N. Y.

A CASE OF WHITEWASH.

Because he stated that he is working without compensation, the state council of defense late Thursday afternoon adopted a motion extending a vote of thanks to Fred Voiland for his services. This morning Governor Capper's Topeka Daily Capital, in a cowardly and unjust attempt to mislead the public concerning government investigations, prints a two column story under the caption, "Voiland Is Given a Clean Bill by Defense Council."

It presents a case of sordid camouflage.

The State Journal was represented at that meeting. Its representatives heard the Voiland report; heard the expression of that fact.

Its editor is a member of the Kansas Council of Defense, who was present and took part in the proceedings, and who voted to thank Voiland for his free services in defense council activities, was commended by President Waters before the council for his report as chairman of the publicity committee and for specific suggestions he made.

But neither the State Journal representatives nor any member of the council of defense heard one reference to the charges that the government has investigated Mr. Voiland and Mr. Capper for their methods of handling certain mail that came into their possession. The State Journal has accredited to Mr. Voiland credit for certain work for the defense council.

This work concerned the assembling of war activities information, reports of free services in defense council activities and similar information. But the State Journal has challenged Governor Capper and Mr. Voiland to show their authority to handle disloyalty cases—which they deliberately took charge of. In fact Governor Capper, in public speeches, sought this information without authority from the government. The State Journal is willing to prove that information thus received and turned over to Voiland was in some instances held sixty-five days before being presented to the district attorney.

The vote of thanks to Mr. Voiland for free services in defense council activities was very just and warranted. The council gave this expression of appreciation—nothing more, nothing less. Neither Governor Capper nor Voiland mentioned the charges which the State Journal is fully able to confirm. The council heard none of these matters. It heard only a report which reviewed work properly in the provinces of the council.

The attempt of Governor Capper's paper to capitalize the vote of thanks for free services into a whitewash of the State Journal's charges against Voiland and the governor, is a reflection on the patriotic organization. It is an equal reflection on the intelligence of Kansas people to assume that the council of defense took part in a case which the government is investigating—a case which many lawyers believe constitutes a violation of section 5 of the federal espionage act.

Yet the self-administered whitewash proves one thing. It proves the zeal of Governor Capper and Voiland to clear their skirts from unlawful interference with the administration of justice without consideration of methods, policies or even the use of the state loyalty organization. The purpose of the Daily Capital story, as directed, is absolutely false and misleading.

In short, the governor's paper has undertaken the task of shouldering on the council of defense a whitewash which cannot be administered by facts or evidence. This distortion of a vote of thanks to free services Gov. Capper's paper seeks to disprove at the expense of the council charges which he and Mr. Voiland have no doubt to ask the government to release to the press. They have used the council of defense for a pretended whitewash of charges which the State Journal has offered to prove in a court of record—an offer which the governor and Mr. Voiland have not accepted.

Governor Capper and Mr. Voiland were doing certain things in connection with solicitation that disloyalty letters be sent to them instead of to the United States district attorney's office where they should go, and retaining and using these letters, and they were both investigated in person by Mr. Bagley from the district attorney's office.

These charges cannot be answered as they have attempted to answer them a week ago and this morning by declaring the charges "unfounded," "ugly," "venomous," "pro-Hun attacks," "scurrilous and unfounded," which are the exact words, as quoted, used in the attempted replies.

HAWAIIAN LAND TO SOLDIERS

Government May Provide for Returned Yanks After the War.

Washington, July 12.—Government land in the Hawaiian Islands may be cut into tracts and distributed to returned American soldiers for occupancy under the homestead act, Secretary Lane, of the department of the interior, announced today, discussing his recent trip to the islands.

Many thousands of acres are to be distributed in this manner through the United States as soon as Congress authorizes the appropriation of \$1,000,000 to finance the preliminary project.

FRENCH ADVANCE ON 5-MILE FRONT SOUTH OF AISNE

Make Important Gain to Southwest of Soissons.

Captured Village of Longpont and Adjacent Strongholds.

GAINS HAVE STRATEGIC VALUE

French Operations in This District Grow.

British Take Prisoners in Raid on Hun Lines.

Paris, July 12.—Driving forward on a five mile front, the French again made important gains between the Aisne and the Marne, capturing the village of Longpont and several adjacent strongholds, the French war office announced today.

Germans still are active in the Verdun sector. The French made successful raids in the Champagne region and north of Montdidier.

"North of Chavigny and east of Faverolles, the French accentuated their progress," the communique said. "Longpont village and the Javage farm also had been taken."

"French troops took twenty prisoners in raids north of Montdidier and in the Champagne."

"German artillery was active along the left bank of the Meuse (Verdun sector)."

The French operations between the Aisne and the Marne are becoming increasingly important. Capture of the village and Castle of Corcy was reported only yesterday in this same neighborhood, while Chavigny farm also had been taken.

Longpont is a strategically important village on the eastern fringe of the Cotterets forest, thirteen miles south and west of Soissons and about the same distance directly north of the American position at Bussieres. Corcy is a small village, three miles south of Faverolles and three miles southwest of Corcy. Chavigny farm is a mile north of Corcy.

Berlin, July 12.—Further raiding operations were carried out by British troops last night notably in the Flanders sector. Reports reaching the Associated Press from authoritative sources indicate that all crops this year are failures.

What little food there was has been requisitioned by the Germans. The bread ration has been reduced further and amounts to less than half a pound daily.

City draft board division No. 2 announced the names of 16 men this morning who have been reclassified. Martin J. Nyström, 110 N. Jackson, was changed from class 2 to class 3. The other 15 men were changed from class 2 to class 4. Their names follow:

Bert Stewart, 617 Locust.
Charles J. Zaluski, 125 Locust.
Adam Arter, 524 N. Jackson.
V. Taylor, 132 Locust.
Elihu Tolson, 21 Oak.
Arthur L. Bodine, 309 Lake.
Charles J. Bodine, 309 Lake.
Robert E. Settle, 1518 E. Sixth.
Benjamin E. Pool, 335 N. Jackson.
Chas. J. Bodine, 335 N. Jackson.
James L. Tucker, 331 Lawrence.
Morgan D. Billings, 141 Mulvane.
Walter W. Taylor, 710 Mulvane.
Maurice A. Curry, 624 Jefferson.
J. A. McGinnis, 617 Hancock.

GO TO CLASS FOUR

Topeka Draft Board No. 2 Declares 15 Men From 2.

One Man Taken From 2 and Placed in Class 3.

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PEASANTS REVOLT

Unarmed Bodies Reported To Be Marching on Moscow.

Are Led by M. Tchernoff, a Social Revolutionary.

Paris, July 12.—M. Tchernoff, a leader of the Russian Social Revolutionists, is marching on Moscow at the head of numerous bands of unarmed peasants, says a dispatch from Stockholm to the Matin. Part of his force has arrived in the outskirts of the Bolshevik capital.

A dispatch received in Paris July 9 reported that M. Tchernoff and three other members of the Kerensky cabinet had been arrested in Moscow as alleged leaders of a revolt against the Bolsheviks. German reports have declared that the Social Revolutionists were responsible for the abortive revolt.

STILL HOLD 500 MEN

Rest of 5,000 Rounded Up in Chicago Slacker Raid Released.

Chicago, July 12.—Of the 5,000 young men rounded up in yesterday's slacker raid, about 500 were still held today for further investigation.

With few exceptions those who did not have their classification cards with them took their detention good humoredly while waiting for the credentials to arrive. Only one serious accident was reported. It was the shooting by a government agent of "Eiga Gustavson. He attempted to escape from the officers who wished to examine his New York registration card more closely. He is in a serious condition.

READY FOR PEACE TAKES OVER RIVER NO CENSORSHIP ON NEWS WIRES AS THE PROMISE

Chancellor Says Germany Would Consider Proposals.

Denies Appointment of Von Hintze Means Change of Policy.

London, July 12.—Germany's leaders, military as well as political, are ready to consider "sincere peace proposals," Chancellor Hertling declared in a speech before the main committee of the reichstag yesterday, according to dispatches received here today.

"The recent speeches of President Wilson and former Secretary Balfour plainly indicate our enemies' will to destroy us, and thereby force Germany to continue the struggle," Von Hertling said.

"The closest unity, however, exists among Germany's political and military leaders regarding readiness to receive sincere peace proposals."

The program of a system of branch lines on the inland waterways provided by the Mississippi and Black Warrior rivers, it was learned officially today.

Washington, July 12.—Approximately \$2,500,000 will be expended by the railroad administration in the establishment of a system of branch lines on the inland waterways provided by the Mississippi and Black Warrior rivers, it was learned officially today.

Expenditures of the money will be in the hands of M. J. Sanders, New Orleans, who has been named federal manager for these waterways.

Operation of barges between St. Louis and New Orleans will relieve the railroads of a heavy burden in the central west, it is estimated. The barges will haul all except perishable freight. Perishable freight will be handled by rail with much greater speed than now, officials believe.

Mississippi valley commercial interests have urged the railroad administration to take over this system of inland waterways.

It was only recently, however, that their pleas met with much consideration.

Will Extend to Coastwise Trade. It was understood that in the division of the lower Mississippi, a line of small steamers would extend their routes to the coastwise trade on the Gulf of Mexico. This would eliminate a transfer of cargo from river barges to the coastwise vessels now in service.

Sanders will have general direction of the department of necessary facilities and has been given a free rein in the construction of barges, vessels, wharves and warehouses. He will direct the work on the Mississippi south of St. Louis and on the Black Warrior route between the Birmingham district in north Alabama and Mobile and New Orleans.

Sanders is a member of the inland waterways commission of the railroad administration and is the owner of several important rail and steamboat lines along the Gulf. As a member of the inland waterways commission he has been able to become conversant of the present situation with which he has to deal.

DISEASE IN RUSSIA

Grave Shortage of Food Starts Cholera Epidemic.

All Crops This Year Are Failures Thruout Rumania.

Today's Chicago Tribune reports a grave shortage in food, cholera is on the increase in Petrograd, and hunger and disease are killing thousands of people in Russia.

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HEAD MAN HUNT!

Federal Agents Searching for "Texas Special" Bandits.

Robbers, in Event of Capture, Will Face Federal Charge.

Federal officials, it was announced today, are leading the hunt for the thirteen bandits who Wednesday night held up and robbed the "Texas Special" on the Katy railroad near Paola, about four persons.

The action of the federal officials in the hunt for the bandits was based on the fact that the safe taken from a baggage and mail car had been registered letters and other mail.

Practically every United States deputy marshal and several from surrounding states are working on the case. In case of their capture the robbers will probably be tried on the charge of kidnapping, which carries a heavy penalty.

WOULD END RAIDS

German Cities Urge Their Abandonment by All.

Have Enough of the Air Bombing Campaign.

Geneva, July 12.—Another campaign has been undertaken along the Rhine in order to prevent allied bombardment of Rhine towns. The landtag of the Duchy of Baden has asked to pass a resolution requesting the government of the Grand Duchy to exercise its influence with the imperial authorities to come to an arrangement with the belligerents to abandon on both sides the aerial bombardment of towns outside the zone of military operations. In a speech in the assembly of the council of the Grand Duchy, Deputy Narum declared that aerial attacks on localities behind the front serve no military purpose and that only innocent women and children suffer.

In commenting on this new campaign the Lacanone Gazette declares that the Germans since the beginning of the war have bombarded London and Paris with Zeppelins and airplanes many more than a hundred times, while the allies during three years for various reasons were unable to reply, but did not whine. Now the Germans, it adds, after only a few months of bombardment of their own towns are crying "Kamerad."

PAY IN INSTALLMENTS

Government Insurance for Soldiers Not Paid in Lump Sum.

Washington, July 12.—Widespread impression that insurance of men in military service is paid in lump sum after their death led the war department to announce today that payments of benefits under the war insurance act are made during twenty years. The insurance is payable on the death of the insured, on the basis of \$5.25 per month for each \$1,000 of insurance. For the maximum of \$10,000 the beneficiary would receive \$525.00 per month.

King and Queen Make Flight. King, July 12.—The king and queen of Belgium, who had been visiting England, have returned to their own country. They were used in crossing the channel to England—thru the air. The return passage, the newspapers say, lasted thirty minutes. The king and queen were delighted with the experiences of the aerial voyage.

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Mississippi valley commercial interests have urged the railroad administration to take over this system of inland waterways.

It was only recently, however, that their pleas met with much consideration.

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